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Appl. No. 10/805,099 (Docket 099/004)

Amdt. dated Dec. 13, 2006

Reply to Office Action of July 13, 2006

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 17, line 35 ("The expression of tissue-specific gene products . . .") with the following amended paragraph:

The expression of tissue-specific gene products can also be detected at the mRNA level by Northern blot analysis, dot-blot hybridization analysis, or by reverse transcriptase initiated polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR) using sequence-specific primers in standard amplification methods. See U.S. Patent 5,843,780 for details of general technique. Sequence data for other markers listed in this disclosure can be obtained from public databases such as GenBank (~~URL~~ www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/80/entrez). Expression at the mRNA level is said to be detectable according to one of the assays described in this disclosure if the performance of the assay on cell samples according to standard procedures in a typical controlled experiment results in clearly discernable hybridization or amplification product. Expression of tissue-specific markers as detected at the protein or mRNA level is considered positive if the level is at least 2-fold, and preferably more than 10- or 50-fold above that of a control cell, such as an undifferentiated pPS cell or other unrelated cell type.